

REMARKS

In the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, the Examiner noted that several sentences of claim 2 were surrounded by brackets, which should only be used to show deletion of single words or characters. In response to the Notice, Applicants have amended both claims 2 and 16 to remove the brackets previously used therein, and to indicate the desired deletions with strikethrough. Applicants believe that the amendments to the claims are now in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is hereby respectfully solicited.

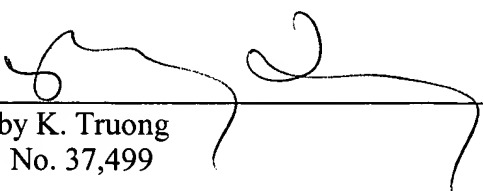
The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 414-1080 to discuss any issue that may advance prosecution.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this response. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due in connection with this response to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 2, 2006


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on October 2, 2006

By 